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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2633
Docket No.: 826.1656

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroshi NISHIMOTO

Serial No. 09/749,426

Group Art Unit: 2633

Confirmation No. 5685

Filed: December 28, 2000

Examiner: Agustin Bello

For: OPTICAL NODE DEVICE AND SIGNAL SWITCHING AND CONNECTION METHOD

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed April 1, 2004, and having a period for response set to expire on July 1, 2004. A Petition for a two-month extension of time, along with the requisite fee for same, is filed concurrently herewith, thereby extending the period for response to September 1, 2004.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.